GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1892
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2014
DISCRIMINATION IN SCHOOLS
Kachhadia Shri Naranbhai

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per a report of Human Rights Watch, the number of Dalit, Tribal and Muslim children who drop-out of school due to discrimination in schools has increased rapidly;

(b) if so, the findings of the report and ;

(c) the corrective action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (c) : Human Rights Watch is an independent international organization and has brought out a Report dated April, 2014 based on sample narratives from 4 States about discrimination. The Report also acknowledges that India's Right to Education Act, 2009 is based on principles of equity and non-discrimination, through which the country is trying to impact school processes so as to realize the goals of equity and inclusion. Specific guidelines have also been issued to the States in order to facilitate the incorporation of these principles in the routine of school functioning and processes.

The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Rashtriya Madhyamik Siksha Abhiyan includes strategies to provide teacher training to sensitize teachers on inclusion and non discrimination and training of Headmasters/Principals for School Leadership so that they help establish inclusive schools. Curriculum & textbooks also emphasize values of equity & inclusion. Grievance redressal systems from grass root level to the National Council for Protection of Child Rights have also been set up by the State and Central Government to deal with such issues, under the RTE Act. Training of cooks and supervisory staff under the MDM programme to deal with such issues have been especially undertaken and where such incidents have come to light, exemplary action against school administrators has been taken.